REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OPIUM DEPARTMENT

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

FOR THE

REVENUE YEAR 1883-84,

WITH

APPENDICES.

Bombay:
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

1885.

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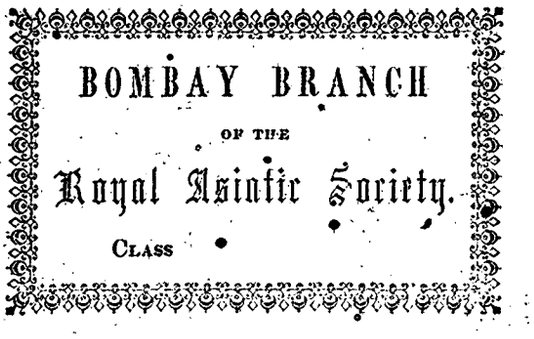

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No. 9979 OF 1884.

FROM

THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS,
SALT, OPIUM AND ÁBKÁRI,

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Revenue Department,
Bombay.

Camp Vásna, 28th November 1884.

SIR,

INTRODUCTION.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency for the revenue year 1883-84, ending 31st July 1884.

CHIEF EVENTS.

Central Opium Warehouse.

2. By their letter No. 758, dated the 3rd May 1884, the Government of India sanctioned, under Section 7 (*a*) of the Opium Act, 1878, the establishment of a Central Opium Warehouse in Bombay, into which all opium is to be brought direct from the railway stations as it arrives, and from out of which it is only to be taken under pass, either for export to China, or for local consumption, or for disposal in some other lawful manner; the whole wholesale opium trade of the city being thus concentrated in a single building. For this purpose Government have taken on lease from the Bombay Port Trust, from the 1st August 1884, the building known as the Apollo Bonded Warehouse and the adjoining spirit-shed, on the following terms:—

1*st*—that rent at the rate of Rs. 1,200 per mensem should be paid for the use of the buildings;

2*nd*—that Government should have the right of retaining the buildings for 20 years, or giving them up at any time before the expiration of that period at a year's previous notice of their intention to do so;

3*rd*—that any alterations which may be deemed necessary with a view to fit the buildings for the purposes of the contemplated opium warehouse should be made at the expense of Government, but that the alterations should be carried out with the approval of the Trustees;

4*th*—that at the termination of the arrangement the buildings should be surrendered to the Trustees with the alterations intact; and

5*th*—that the Trustees should keep the buildings with the alterations in repair at their own cost.

3. The necessary alterations are being carried out by the Executive Engineer, Presidency Division, and it is hoped that the buildings will be ready for use as an Opium Warehouse in a few months' time.

Rates of opium duty.

4. No change was made in the year under report in the rates of opium duty, which remained at Rs. 650 per chest on opium intended for export to China and other foreign countries, and Rs. 700 per chest on opium imported for local consumption in the Bombay Presidency. The rates levied on opium at the scales at Ajmere were, as usual, Rs. 25 per chest higher in each case.

OPIUM IMPORTS.

OPIUM AGENCIES.

5. No change was made during the year in the number or location of the scales for the weighment of opium, except that the scales at Udepur were finally transferred to Chitor on the 1st November 1883.

STATISTICS.

Total exports from agencies and duty realizations.

6. Excluding from the account the number of opium chests noted in the margin, which were passed at the scales for export to other provinces and Presidencies, and are not included in the accounts of this Presidency, there were weighed and passed at the scales altogether 42,135½ chests during the year under report for importation into the Bombay Presidency, and the duty paid on them amounted to Rs. 2,73,99,862½. The exports and the realizations were the largest made in recent years. They exceeded those of the previous year by 2,711½ chests and Rs. 17,61,025, of 1881-82 by 11,178 chests and Rs. 57,79,187½, and of 1880-81 by 3,498½ chests and Rs. 3,40,087½. They exceeded the average of the previous three years ending 1879-80 by chests 3,991½ and Rs. 20,02,724½. The increase in the realizations for the year under report will appear to be the more satisfactory when it is remembered that the rate of duty on all opium exported from the scales was Rs. 725 per chest at Ajmere and Rs. 700 per chest at all other scales from the 15th September 1879 to the 28th June 1882, while duty was levied throughout the year 1883-84 at a rate of Rs. 50 less in each case except in the case of 154 chests imported by British opium-farmers and Native Chiefs, on which alone duty at the rate of Rs. 700 per chest was levied at the scales. The results have justified the anticipations of Government when they ordered a reduction in the rates of duty at the end of the year 1881-82, assisted as that measure has been by the circumstance of continuous good seasons and plentiful crops in the opium-producing tracts and of increased activity of the China opium trade.

	Chests.	Duty. Rs.
Madras Presidency	453½	3,17,450
Panjáb	208	36,400
Hyderabad Assigned Districts	263	1,84,100
Nizám's Territory	417	2,91,900
Coorg	½	Duty-free.
Mysore	20	Duty-free.
	1,362	8,29,850

Exports from different agencies.

7. Of the 42,135½ chests of duty-paid opium passed at the scales for importation into the Bombay Presidency, Indore had as usual the largest share, the exports being 12,979 chests in 1883-84 against 12,770 chests in 1882-83. The Ujain Agency, which comes next in the order of importance, exported 9,817½ chests during the year under report, being less by 559½ chests than the exports for the previous year. There has been a slow but continual decline in the exports from this Agency for some years past. The exports from Udepur and Chitor combined amounted to 6,754 chests against 3,514 chests exported from Udepur alone in the previous year. Mandésar comes next in the order of importance, having exported 4,849½ chests in 1883-84 against 4,514½ chests in 1882-83. The Mandésar scales were established only in 1881-82. The exports from Bhopál fell off from 3,105 chests in 1882-83 to 2,298 chests in 1883-84. Ratlám, Jáora and Dhár exported as usual less than 1,600 chests each, the aggregate of their exports for 1883-84 having amounted to 4,329 chests against 3,902½ chests in the preceding year. The exports from Ajmere have, since the establishment of the scales there in 1877-78, never exceeded 600 chests in any year, while those for the year under report were only 163½ chests, being less by 198 chests than the exports for the preceding year. 945 chests of opium manufactured in the Kadi

Mahál of His Highness the Gáikwád were weighed and passed for export at the Ahmedabad scales in 1883-84, the number of chests similarly passed in the previous year being 879½.

Duty realizations on Exports from scales.

8. Duty was levied at the under-mentioned rates on the 42,135½ chests weighed and passed at the scales for exportation to Bombay :—

			Rs.
154	chests at Rs. 700 per chest	...	1,07,800
163½	„ 675 „	...	1,10,362½
41,818	„ 650 „	...	2,71,81,700
42,135½	chests	Rs.	2,73,99,862½

Actual imports into Bombay and actual duty realizations.

9. The number of chests actually imported into Bombay and the amount of duty actually realized and brought to account during the year under report were 40,929 chests and Rs. 2,65,90,287½. The difference between these figures and the statistics of exports from and realizations at the scales quoted in the last preceding paragraph is explained below :—

	Chests.	Duty. Rs.
Chests passed and duty levied at the scales in 1883-84	42,135½	2,73,99,862½
Deduct—Number not arrived in Bombay before the close of the year :—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay within the year ...	133	.....
(*b*) Chests on which duty was not realized in Bombay within the year.	1,782	11,58,300
	40,220½	2,62,41,562½
Add—Chests passed at the scales in 1882-83 but arrived in Bombay in 1883-84 :—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay in 1882-83 ...	172	.....
(*b*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay in 1883-84	536½	3,48,725
Number of chests actually arrived and duty actually realized in Bombay in 1883-84	40,929	2,65,90,287½

Differential duty on opium bought for home consumption.

10. To these may be added the 47½ chests imported under duty-free passes by Native Chiefs in the Bombay Presidency, and Rs. 57,775 realized on account of differential duty at the rate of Rs. 50 per chest on the 1,155½ chests imported into Bombay on payment of duty at the lower rates and subsequently disposed of for home consumption during the year under report. The total imports into Bombay thus amounted to 40,976½ chests and the gross realizations to Rs. 2,66,48,062½, as against 38,850 chests of duty-paid and duty-free opium imported and the gross duty realizations of Rs. 2,53,55,577½ made in the preceding year.

Total opium stock in Bombay.

11. The imports during the year, added to the balance on hand in the merchants' warehouses in Bombay at the commencement of the year, made up a total stock of 42,624 chests duty-paid

STATISTICS.

and 47½ chests duty-free opium. The stock was distributed as under during the year :—

Exported by sea to foreign countries beyond India :—			
(*a*) To Zanzibar and other African ports ...		8½	
(*b*) To China		39,763½	
			39,772
Exported to Mysore and Cochin			86½
Bought for home consumption—			
(*a*) by Government for the supply of depôts ...		355½	
(*b*) by licensees in British districts... ...		657	
(*c*) by Native Chiefs—			
Duty-paid	297½		
Duty-free	47½		
		345	
			1,357½
Wiped off the stock owing to passes not having been utilized within the prescribed period			3½
On hand in merchants' warehouses at the end of the year			1,452
			42,671½

APPENDICES.

12. A comparison of the statistics of (*a*) the number of chests weighed at the scales for export to Bombay and the amount of duty levied thereon, (*b*) of the number of chests arrived in Bombay and the amount of duty realized thereon, and (*c*) of the distribution of opium stocks in Bombay, during the year under report, with similar statistics for a series of past years, is given in Appendices Nos. I., II., and III.

EXPORTS. To England.

13. There were no exports to England or any other European country in 1883-84, nor in either of the two preceding years, the latest consignment to England on record being that of 11 chests exported in 1880-81.

To Mauritius.

14. Only one chest of opium was exported to Mauritius in 1881-82 but none was exported to that island in 1882-83 or 1883-84.

To African ports.

15. The exports to ports on the African coast amounted during the year under report to 8½ chests against 21 chests exported in 1882-83, 17 chests in 1881-82, and 18½ chests in 1880-81.

CHINA EXPORTS.

16. The bulk of the exports went as usual to China; 39,763½ chests were exported to that country during the year under report, being in excess of the exports for the previous year by 2,417 chests, of those of 1881-82 by 8,630½ chests, and of the exports for 1880-81 by 3,029½ chests. The exports for 1883-84 were, however, smaller than those of any of the years between 1871-72 and 1879-80 inclusive, except the year 1878-79, in which 35,281 chests only were exported. The largest exports ever recorded within the last 15 years were those of the year 1876-77, in which 51,905½ chests were exported to China. That was the last of the series of years in which the duty was levied at the rate of Rs. 600 per chest.

Opium prices in China and Bombay.

17. The following statement shows the prices of one and two years old opium ruling in the Bombay market in each of the last two years contrasted with the prices quoted for similar opium in the principal China markets of Hongkong and Shanghái :—

DISTRIBUTION.

CHINA EXPORTS.
Opium prices.

Months.	1882-83.						1883-84.					
	Bombay Market.		China Market.				Bombay Market.		China Market.			
			Hongkong.		Shanghâi.				Hongkong.		Shanghâi.	
	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
August	1,251	1,319	1,350	1,485	1,390	1,498	1,174	1,250	1,161	1,222	1,211	1,287
September	1,242	1,309	1,339	1,456	1,337	1,439	1,176	1,229	1,199	1,243	1,259	1,302
October	1,195	1,269	1,282	1,331	1,267	1,359	1,126	1,164	1,198	1,243	1,229	1,262
November	1,154	1,211	1,231	1,287	1,172	1,317	1,118	1,166	1,139	1,194	1,197	1,236
December	1,153	1,189	1,165	1,226	1,193	1,288	1,122	1,166	1,138	1,170	1,209	1,242
January	1,177	1,215	1,147	1,218	1,255	1,305	1,134	1,186	1,097	1,125	1,187	1,227
February	1,177	1,236	1,156	1,216	1,237	1,300	1,148	1,229	1,100	1,160	1,196	1,250
March	1,135	1,228	1,145	1,200	1,182	1,282	1,194	1,282	1,140	1,198	1,244	1,318
April	1,123	1,220	1,147	1,202	1,137	1,278	1,240	1,311	1,245	1,306	1,288	1,375
May	1,138	1,242	1,159	1,216	1,144	1,286	1,229	1,280	1,214	1,258	1,267	1,320
June	1,173	1,271	1,163	1,220	1,219	1,301	1,219	1,250	1,215	1,265	1,281	1,329
July	1,181	1,268	1,153	1,209	1,192	1,284	1,204	1,232	1,213	1,258	1,260	1,303
Average ..	1,175	1,248	1,203	1,272	1,227	1,328	1,174	1,229	1,172	1,220	1,236	1,288

Remarks on Bombay prices of new opium.

18. The bulk of the opium exported to China is freshly made opium for which there is little or no demand for home consumption. The prices of fresh opium were almost stationary in the Bombay market during the last two months of 1882-83 and the first two months of the year under report. In October, the price fell from Rs. 1,176 to Rs. 1,126, and in the next month to Rs. 1,118. The market then began to assume a firmer tone, and the prices went up from month to month, until they were quoted in March at Rs. 1,194, and in April at Rs. 1,240. Arrived at this point the prices again began to fall and stood at Rs. 1,204 at the end of the year.

Remarks on Bombay prices of old opium.

19. The price of opium two years old in the Bombay market stood at Rs. 1,250 at the beginning of the year. In the next month it fell to Rs. 1,229, and to Rs. 1,164 in October. During the next two months, the price remained almost stationary and rose in January to Rs. 1,186, in February to Rs. 1,229, and in March to Rs. 1,282. The highest pitch, Rs. 1,311 per chest, was reached in April, followed by a fall in the next three months, first to Rs. 1,280, then to Rs. 1,250 and finally to Rs. 1,232.

Remarks on China prices.

20. The fluctuations in the prices ruling in the Bombay market are usually the reflex of fluctuations in the prices obtaining in the China market. But it is noticeable that the prices reported as ruling in Hongkong in six of the twelve months of the current year were lower than the prices reported for the Bombay market during the corresponding periods. The same thing has happened at several periods during the last few years. As was explained in this office No. 3403, dated the 5th May last, in answer to the remarks made by Government on this subject in reviewing the Opium Administration Report for 1882-83, the table given above is intended merely to illustrate the general tendency of prices here and in China during the two years exhibited. It must also be remembered that the prices quoted are the average prices for each month, and that the profit of the exporter does not necessarily depend upon the rates reported as current in China at the date of the purchase in Bombay for export.

DISTRIBUTION.

EXPORTS TO MYSORE.

21. The exports from Bombay to Mysore and Cochin amounted during the year under report to 86½ chests against 74½ chests exported in 1882-83, 84½ chests in 1881-82, and 81½ chests in 1880-81. It is only since the year last mentioned that these exports have assumed the above proportions, the exports in previous years being insignificant.

HOME CONSUMPTION. Standard of weight.

22. There now remain to be considered the items relating to home consumption. It will be convenient to present the accounts of home consumption as usual in pounds, each pound being taken as equal to 40 tolas of 180 grains each, that being the standard of weight adopted in keeping the opium accounts at Government depôts, as well as in those rendered by farmers and Native States throughout the Bombay Presidency.

Government stock and purchases.

23. At the beginning of the year there was a stock in hand at the Government depôts of lbs. 43,269 valued at Rs. 4,90,894. During the year Government bought from merchants in Bombay 355½ chests, the weight of the contents of which brought to account was lbs. 48,387½. The price paid for this quantity amounted to Rs. 4,55,855, and averaged Rs. 9-3-9 per lb. The average price paid for similar purchases made in the previous year was Rs. 9-10-5 per lb. In that year a further quantity of specially good and old opium amounting to lbs. 11,067 was also bought under special arrangements at an average price of Rs. 13-6-5 per lb. for the supply of Native States in Káthiáwár and Northern Gujarát. Some of this opium is still in stock.

Purchase of confiscated opium.

24. In addition to the purchases from merchants in Bombay, Government bought for Rs. 1,440 during the year under report 171¾ lbs. of opium confiscated in foreign territory, as well as a further quantity of 344½ lbs. left unsold on the hands of licensed vendors on the expiry of their licenses, the price paid for which amounted to Rs. 3,220. The total Government stock of opium accumulated during the year thus amounted to 92,172¾ lbs. valued at Rs. 9,51,409, at the average cost of Rs. 10-5-2 per lb.

Issues from Government depôts.

25. Lbs. 44,527½ were issued from Government depôts during the year to British licensed vendors and Native Chiefs on payment of prices amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 4,72,833 (inclusive of Rs. 52,156, adjusted by credit to sale-proceeds and debit to refunds, on account of drawback of duty on opium issued to Native Chiefs). The issue-rate continued throughout the year to be Rs. 12 per lb. in the case of opium issued from the depôts at Rájkot, Sádra and Pálanpur, less the whole or a portion of the duty remitted to various Chiefs in accordance with the terms of their conventions with Government, and Rs. 10 per lb. in the case of opium issued from all other depôts in the Presidency. A net profit of Rs. 1,195 was made on the sale of opium from Government depôts, after deducting from the surplus (Rs. 15,267) of the sale-proceeds over the cost price of the opium sold, the charges (Rs. 5,936) incurred on account of the transport of opium from Bombay to up-country depôts, the charges (Rs. 1,256) on account of the Government depôts at Sádra and Pálanpur, (which yield no profit to Government and the cost of maintaining which is met from the proceeds of the sale of opium), and the value (Rs. 6,880) of 669½ lbs. of opium written off during the year as loss from dryage and wastage. There remained in stock at the end of the year lbs. 46,975¾, valued at Rs. 4,86,963.

Stock for British districts.

26. Excluding the issues from Government depôts to Native Chiefs entitled to full or partial remission of duty—issues which will be considered further on in treating of the opium consumption in Native States—the total quantity of opium issued for consumption in British districts during the year amounted to lbs.

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Stock for British districts.

26,211¾. To this must be added 657 chests, equivalent to 89,425 lbs., imported or bought by licensed vendors on their own account in the open market, as shown in the margin, and then retailed for local consumption. There were thus placed on sale in licensed shops in British districts lbs. 1,15,636¾ opium, exclusive of certain unsold stocks of the previous year bought from retiring licensees by the new licensed vendors, which did not pass through the Government accounts.

By licensed vendors—	Bought in Bombay. Chests.	Imported from Málwa. Chests.
Of Bombay...	77½	...
„ Ahmedabad	144½	15
„ Kaira	79	...
„ Panch Mahals... ...	12	3
„ Broach	26	66
„ Surat	26	...
„ Thána	10	...
„ Násik	33½	...
„ Ahmednagar	53½	...
„ Poona	61	...
„ Sholápur	39½	...
„ Sátára	10½	...
	573	84

Sales in British districts

27. The quantities of opium which actually passed into consumption during the year under report in each British district are shown in the subjoined table in contrast with the licit sales during the preceding year, and the average of each period of the three years ending respectively in 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83 :—

Districts.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Bombay	919	7,112	11,086	11,383	11,557
Ahmedabad	3,274	8,452	20,244	22,649	23,760
Kaira	167	3,695	10,376	11,765	11,658
Panch Mahals	.....	1,068	2,854	2,020	2,718
Broach	233	3,186	9,713	10,453	11,739
Surat	816	1,545	3,520	3,623	3,820
Thána	565	595	1,330	1,589	1,636
Khándesh	1,025	1,352	5,860	8,115	9,588
Násik	2,079	1,754	2,525	3,460	4,498
Ahmednagar	1,185	1,052	3,191	5,404	6,722
Poona	1,030	1,044	6,066	7,156	8,550
Sholápur	282	659	2,649	3,776	5,220
Sátára	478	756	1,269	1,349	2,177
Belgaum	387	547	712	755	720
Dhárwár	328	269	378	402	498
Kaládgi	117	114	215	316	335
Kánara	144	124	108	116	137
Ratnágiri	179	184	173	181	190
Kolába	167	219	302	314	337
Karáchi	1,708	2,036	2,514	2,653	3,426
Hyderabad	8,490	5,534	5,790	7,100	6,051
Shikárpur...	970	1,210	1,749	2,051	2,103
Aden	222	249	254	239	228
Total ...	24,765	42,756	92,878	106,869	117,668

NOTE.—In extracting the figures for the year 1882-83 from the report for that year, the quantities of opium issued to Native States as detailed in para. 43 of that report have been deducted from the figures for the several districts in which those quantities were included. Similar issues are not included in the statistics given in the table for 1883-84.

Remarks on sales in British districts.

28. The foregoing statement shows that there has been an increase of 10,799 lbs. in the licit consumption of British districts during the year under report as compared with the previous year. The increase, as compared with the average sales of the three years ending 1882-83, amounts to 24,799 lbs., to 74,910 lbs. as compared with the average sales of the three years ending 1879-80, and to 92,903 lbs. as compared with the average sales of the three years ending 1876-77. The licit consumption for the whole presidency in the year 1883-84 was thus about 5 times larger than the average annual licit consumption of the three years ending 1876-77, the year immediately preceding the introduction of the present system of excise-opium management.

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Opium used in manufacture of chandul, &c.

29. Of the quantities of opium sold in 1883-84, lbs. 6,009 were used in the manufacture of chandul, madat and other preparations of opium, licenses for the retail sale of which were sold separately from licenses for the sale of opium for the first time during the year under report.

Causes of improvement in licit sales.

30. The improvement in licit opium consumption is noticeable in almost all districts. Kaira, Belgaum, and Aden show decreases as compared with the previous year, but the decrease in each case is of trifling amount. There was a considerable falling off, however, in the licit sales in the Haidarabad district. This was partly due to the high prices charged by the licensed vendors and partly to smuggling. Measures have been taken to reduce the selling prices in Haidarabad during the current year. All the Deccan districts show satisfactory increments over the previous year, due in a great measure to the increased activity displayed by the G. I. P. Railway Police in intercepting the ingress of contraband opium into those districts by railway, and to the exertions of the opium and ábkári establishments in the prevention of opium smuggling. The licit consumption of the districts of Karáchi and Shikárpur also compares favourably with the results reported for the previous year.

Opium transactions of Native States.

31. I now turn to the consideration of licit opium consumption in Native States in the Bombay Presidency. It will be convenient to divide the Native States into two divisions—those comprised in Northern Gujarát—including Baroda, Cutch, Káthiáwár, Pálanpur, the Mahi Kántha, the Rewa Kántha and Cambay—, and those comprised in Southern Gujarát and the rest of the Presidency.

Sources of supply for Native States.

32. The opium sold in Native States in Northern Gujarát during the year was obtained from the following sources:—

		Lbs.
Baroda—Opium locally manufactured		60,463
Cutch—Bought by the Darbár in the Bombay market (chests 60)		8,166
Káthiáwár States:—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under duty-paid passes (chests 54)	Lbs. 7,350	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (chests 118½)	16,128	
(*c*) Issued from the Government Depôt at Rájkot	9,210	
		32,688
Pálanpur States:—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under *duty-free* passes (chests 12)	1,633	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (chests 23)	3,131	
(*c*) Issued by the Collector of Customs from Government stock	1,225	
(*d*) Issued from the Government depôt at Pálanpur	1,490	
		7,479
Mahi Kántha States:—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under duty-free passes (chests 19½)	2,654	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (chests 3½)... ...	477	
(*c*) Issued by the Collector of Customs from Government stock...	1,633	
(*d*) Issued from the Government depôt at Sádra	2,861	
		7,625

DISTRIBUTION.
HOME CONSUMPTION.
Native States.

	Lbs.	Lbs.
Rewa Kántha States:—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under—		
Duty-free passes (chests 15½) ...	2,110	
Duty-paid ,, (chests 13) ...	1,770	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (chests 3½)	477	
		4,357
Cambay:—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbár direct from Málwa under—		
Duty-free passes (chest ½)	68	
Duty-paid ,, (chests 3)	408	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbár in the Bombay market (chests 19)	2,586	
		3,062
		123,840

Abstract.

Imported direct from Málwa:—	
Under duty-free passes (chests 47½)	6,465
,, Duty-paid passes (chests 70)	9,528
Bought in the Bombay market (chests 227½)	30,965
Issued by Collector of Customs from Government stock ...	2,858
Issued from Government depôts in Native territory	13,561
Baroda-grown opium	60,463
	123,840

33. The following are the statistics of opium manufacture and sales in Baroda territory:— Baroda.

	Average of the 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Area under poppy cultivation	19,044	17,373	334
Poppy Juice.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	235,682	271,560	314,518
Purchased during the year	305,003	311,826	3,399
	540,685	583,386	317,917
Utilized in the manufacture of opium	231,635	268,868	311,845
Stock on hand at the end of the year	309,050	314,518	6,072
Production and Purchase of Opium.			
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	133,664	264,391	332,713
Manufactured from juice	201,427	239,105	261,043
Confiscated opium	182	128	91
Returned by licensed vendors	5	.....	.....
Total Stock ...	335,278	503,624	593,847
Disposal of Opium.			
Exported to Bombay *vid* Ahmedabad ...	68,173	122,790	130,060
Issued to licensed retailers	34,345	47,698	60,463
Total ...	102,518	170,488	190,523
Loss from dryage, &c.	761	423	693
Stock on hand at the end of the year	231,999	332,713	402,631
Total of Exports and Sales, Loss and Balance ...	335,278	503,624	593,847

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Accumulation of stocks in Baroda.

34. There was almost a complete cessation of the cultivation of the poppy plant in Baroda territory during the year under report, in consequence of the large accumulations of opium manufactured in previous years left on the hands of the Darbár at the beginning of the year under report.

Review of Baroda opium transactions.

35. It would appear that since the establishment of a State monopoly for the manufacture of opium in the Baroda State in 1878 the Darbár has manufactured about 6,384 chests of opium. It has also purchased some 478 chests of opium that were in the hands of farmers and traders at the commencement of the monopoly, and it has seized and brought to account 10 chests of confiscated opium. The total stock accrued thus amounts to 6,872 chests. Of these, about 25 chests have been written off the accounts as loss from dryage, wastage, &c., and 1,581 chests have been issued for retail sale to licensed vendors in Baroda territory. The Darbár has also sent 2,390 chests to Bombay on payment of the British duty at the Ahmedabad scales, but has experienced considerable difficulty in disposing of it there at profitable rates for export to China. There still remain on the hands of the Darbár 2,876 chests, a quantity sufficient to meet local demands for several years to come. Under the arrangement made in 1877-78, the Baroda Government has benefited largely in the matter of revenue derived from the sale of opium for local consumption. Before 1877-78 the profits of the State from this source averaged but Rs. 65,000 a year, whereas during the year under report they exceeded Rs. 3,00,000.

Licit sales in Baroda territory.

36. The quantities of opium sold in each of the main divisions of His Highness the Gáikwár's dominion in each of the last two years, and the average annual sales for the three years ending 1882-83 are shown in the subjoined table :—

Names of Divisions.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Navsári	1,798	2,058	2,507
Baroda	16,821	21,693	27,914
Kadi	8,380	12,385	17,588
Amreli	7,409	11,514	12,486
Total ...	34,408	47,650	60,495

Remarks on licit consumption in Baroda.

37. According to the foregoing statement the consumption of licit opium in Baroda territory increased during the year under report by 27 per cent. The ratio of increase is the largest in the Kadi Division, and is due probably to the cessation of poppy cultivation in that division. Frequent complaints have been made by opium-farmers of British districts and Native States bordering on the Baroda frontier of the sale of opium by Baroda licensed vendors at rates below those prevailing in British districts in breach of the arrangements of 1877-78. This matter has been repeatedly urged upon the attention of the Baroda Administration, but hitherto with unsatisfactory results.

38. The accounts furnished by the Cutch Darbár of its opium transactions are as follows :— Cutch opium accounts.

	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year	2,102	3,030	2,538
Imported during the year... ...	9,267	8,134	8,466
Confiscated opium	124	153	...
Total Stock ...	11,493	11,317	11,004
Issued to licensed retailers and used for private consumption of the Darbár ...	8,655	8,550	9,753
Dryage	448	229	205
Stock on hand at the end of the year...	2,390	2,538	1,046
Total ...	11,493	11,317	11,004

39. It may be remarked that differences between the quantities of opium credited by the Cutch Darbár as shown in the foregoing account, as well as by other Native Chiefs in their accounts, which will be presented further on, and the quantities of opium shown in paragraph 32 above as bought and imported by those Chiefs, are due to the circumstance that portions of the purchases made at the end of one year have been accounted for in the Darbár's accounts for the next year.

40. Similar accounts of opium transactions in Káthiáwár as furnished by the Chiefs are as follows :— Káthiáwár opium accounts

	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year	8,699	11,518	15,723
Imported by direct purchase in Bombay and Málwa	10,839	16,742	23,479
Purchased from the Rájkot Depôt ...	23,523	17,299	9,564
Confiscated opium	...	....	204
Excess found in stocks on re-weighment	3	...	1
Total Stock ...	43,064	45,559	48,971

	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Sold to public or licensed retailers and used for private consumption of the Darbárs	31,321	29,348	32,253
Loss from dryage	401	488	546
Stock on hand at the end of the year...	11,342	15,723	16,172
Total of Sales, Loss and Balance ...	43,064	45,559	48,971

The sales of licit opium in Káthiáwár during the year under report show some improvement over the results of the previous year, but they still fall far short of the sales effected years back, and there is no doubt that a considerable portion of the opium now consumed in Káthiáwár is smuggled.

Pálanpur, Mahi Kántha, Rewa Kántha, Cambay.

41. The accounts of opium transactions in Pálanpur, the Mahi Kántha, the Rewa Kántha and Cambay, as furnished by the Chiefs concerned, are given below :—

Names of States.	Opening Stock.	Imported and locally purchased.	Total Stock.	Sold and consumed.	Loss from dryage.	Closing Stock.	Total of Sales, Loss and Balance.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Pálanpur.							
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	4,175	7,312	11,487	7,717	145	3,625	11,487
In 1882-83	5,183	4,338	9,521	7,893	153	1,475	9,521
In 1883-84	1,475	8,153	9,628	7,620	117	1,891	9,628
Mahi Kántha.							
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	3,059	7,193	10,252	7,843	166	2,243	10,252
In 1882-83	1,980	7,038	9,018	7,292	133	1,593	9,018
In 1883-84	1,593	7,915	9,508	8,227	142	1,139	9,508
Rewa Kántha.							
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	4,362	4,767	9,129	5,028	1,039	3,063	9,129
In 1882-83	2,229	4,888	7,117	4,461	282	2,374	7,117
In 1883-84	2,374	4,904	7,278	4,605	1,036	1,637	7,278
Cambay.							
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	132	2,765	2,897	2,799	4	94	2,897
In 1882-83	87	2,740	2,827	2,733	3	91	2,827
In 1883-84	91	3,106	3,197	2,971	1	225	3,197

42. The foregoing statement shows an improvement in the sales of licit opium in all States except Pálanpur. This result is satisfactory as indicating a corresponding decrease in illicit consumption.

Rate of licit consumption in British and Foreign Gujarát.

43. It may be interesting to compare here the rate of licit consumption per head of population in each main division of His Highness the Gáikwár's dominions and of the province of Káthiáwár, as well as of the Native States of Cutch, Pálanpur, the Mahi Kántha, the Rewa Kántha and Cambay, with that of British districts in Gujarát, for a series of years.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Rate of licit consumption.

Names of Districts and States.	Population.	Rate of Licit Opium Consumption per head of population in Tolas.							
		Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
British Gujarát—									
Ahmedabad	856,324	·15	·13	·30	·76	·96	·82	1·05	1·11
Kaira	804,800	·008	·007	·13	·41	·50	·46	·58	·58
Panch Mahúls	255,479	..	..	·005	·50	·58	·43	·31	·43
Broach	326,930	·03	·03	·35	·79	1·29	1·08	1·38	1·43
Surat	765,330	·04	·04	·07	·12	·17	·18	·19	·20
Baroda Territory—									
Navsári	297,549	..	..	·27	·25	·22	·24	·28	·35
Broada	756,807	..	..	·65	·76	·55	·95	1·14	1·47
Kadi	988,487	..	..	·33	·48	·18	·33	·50	·71
Amreli	147,468	..	..	·90	1·13	·88	2·05	3·12	3·38
Káthiáwár—									
Jhálávád	439,629	·93	·86	·57	·29	·30	·30	·36	·44
Sorath	639,780				·55	·58	·53	·50	·47
Hálár	634,327				·60	·60	·63	·63	·66
Gohelvád	580,163				·59	·66	·62	·45	·58
Cutch State	512,084	..	..	·66	·61	·59	·66	·66	·76
Pálanpur States	576,478	..	..	·46	·54	·53	·52	·54	·53
Mahi Kántha	517,485	..	..	·28	·41	·59	·69	·56	·63
Rewa Kántha	543,452	..	..	·54	·60	·44	·35	·32	·34
Cambay	86,074	..	..	·70	·99	1·22	1·41	1·27	1·38

Smaller Native States.

44. In the second group of Native States, comprising the States of Dharampor, Bánsda and Sachín under the Surat Agency, and the States in the Konkan, Deccan and Southern Marátha Country, the consumption of opium is comparatively small. These States continue to obtain their supplies from the nearest British depôts. The quantities issued to each of them in each of the last two years are noted below:—

Name of State.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Name of State.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Lbs.	Lbs.		Lbs.	Lbs.
			Brought forward ...	884	938
Dharampor	150	166			
Bánsda	110	150	Kolhápur	408	272
Sachín	37	48	Sángli	177	332
Jawhár	14	12	Miraj, Senior	199	130
Akalkot	113	133	Miraj, Junior	75	62
Bhor	122	143	Kurundvád	55	62
Phaltan	219	150	Jamkhandi	36	52
Jath	21	16	Mudhol	90	20
Aundh	98	120	Rámdurg	20	15
			Savanúr	9	20
Carried forward ...	884	938	Total ...	1,953	1,903

45. Of the quantities issued to these States in 1883-84, lbs. 1,896 were issued from Government stock and were debited in the regular accounts of the Government depôts, and the remaining seven pounds were confiscated opium issued to the Akalkot State.

REALIZATIONS.

IMPERIAL.

46. The revenue results of the year may be summed up as follows. It has been shown in para. 10 above that the duty on opium realized and brought to account during the year under report amounted to Rs. 2,66,48,062½. From this amount must be deducted the amounts of duty refunded, as shown below, on account of duty-paid opium bought by Native Chiefs entitled to full and partial remissions of duty :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
One-third of the duty on 32,688 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by or issued to Native Chiefs in Káthiáwár...	56,039	6	10
One-third of the duty on 8,166 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by the Cutch Darbár...	14,000	0	0
Full duty on 5,846 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Chiefs in Pálanpur	30,062	13	9
Full duty on 4,971 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Chiefs in the Mahi Kántha	25,563	11	5
Full duty on 2,247 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Chiefs in the Rewa Kántha	11,550	0	0
Full duty on 2,994 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by the State of Cambay	15,400	0	0
One-fifth of the duty on 1,467 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Native Chiefs in Southern Gujarát, the Konkan, Deccan and Southern Marátha Country, except the Sátára Jághírdárs...	1,508	15	9
One-tenth of the duty on 429 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Sátára Jághírdárs...	220	8	9
Total Refunds ...	1,54,345	8	6

Deductions for duty on home consumption.

47. Deducting these refunds from the gross duty realizations, there remains a balance of Rs. 2,64,93,716-15-6. Of this sum Rs. 7,63,066-15-6 are on account of opium bought for home consumption, shown below :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Duty on opium bought and retained for consumption in British districts	6,14,967	4	3
Two-thirds of duty on opium bought by Native Chiefs in Káthiáwár	1,12,078	13	9
Two-thirds of duty on opium bought by the Cutch Darbár	28,000	0	0
Four-fifths of duty on opium bought by Native Chiefs in Southern Gujarát, Konkan, Deccan, and Southern Marátha Country, except the Sátára Jághírdárs ...	6,035	14	10
Nine-tenths of the duty on opium bought by Sátára Jághírdárs	1,984	14	8
Total ...	7,63,066	15	6

Net Imperial duty.

48. Of the net duty realizations there thus remain Rs. 2,57,30,650 relating exclusively to the External Trade. To the same head pertain also the realizations on account of transhipment fees, Rs. 16,592, and interest Rs. 40-9-11.

Comparison with previous years.

49. These items for the year under report are compared in the subjoined table with similar items for the previous year and with the average realizations for each period of three years ending respectively in 1876-77, 1879-80, and 1882-83 :—

Items.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Opium duty	2,94,07,200 0 0	2,53,68,115 6 8	2,47,73,819 12 8	2,53,55,577 8 0	2,66,48,062 8 0
Deduct– Duty on opium sold for home consumption ...	48,000 0 0	2,68,823 12 0	8,26,382 4 8	9,01,377 8 0	9,17,412 8 0
Net Opium Duty ...	2,93,59,200 0 0	2,50,99,291 10 8	2,39,47,437 8 0	2,44,54,200 0 0	2,57,30,650 0 0
Transhipment fee	160 0 0	1,945 0 0	2,608 0 0	5,189 0 0	16,592 0 0
Interest	269 13 8	266 8 0	101 15 1	106 2 4	40 9 11
Miscellaneous receipts ...	0 10 8	83 1 6	93 10 1	.....	.....
Total ...	2,93,59,630 8 4	2,51,01,586 4 2	2,39,50,241 1 2	2,44,59,495 2 4	2,57,47,282 9 11
Less—Refunds	.....	.....	734 5 9	800 0 0	183 0 0
Net Receipts ...	2,93,59,630 8 4	2,51,01,586 4 2	2,39,49,506 11 5	2,44,58,695 2 4	2,57,47,099 9 11

REALIZATIONS.

IMPERIAL.

Tranship-fee.

50. Of the amount realized on account of transhipment-fees in 1883-84, Rs. 978 were collected at Aden against Rs. 795 in the previous year, and Rs. 15,614 were collected in Bombay against Rs. 4,394 in 1882-83. Altogether, 4,462 chests were transhipped in the Bombay harbour in 1883-84, of which 715 chests paid transhipfee at Karáchi and were exempted from payment of additional fees of the same kind at Bombay under the authority of the Government of India's letter No. 2900, dated the 28th August 1883. Of the remainder, 121 chests were carried on in the same bottoms on payment of re-export fees at the rate of Rs. 5 per chest, and 3,626 chests were transhipped in Bombay on payment of fees at the undermentioned rates, *viz.*, 1,246 chests at the rate of Rs. 5 per chest, 1,639 chests at the rate of Rs. 4 per chest, and 741 chests at the rate of Rs. 3 per chest.

PROVINCIAL.

Opium duty on purchases for local consumption.

51. It will be seen from the table given under para. 49 above that a sum of Rs. 9,17,412-8-0 has been deducted from the total opium duty realizations for 1883-84 on account of duty on opium taken for local consumption in this Presidency. This sum represents the duty on 1,310 chests of duty-paid opium bought during the year on Government account, by British licensees, and by the Chiefs of Native States as shown in para. 11 above. The duty has been calculated at the following rates:—

	Rs.
154 chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 700 per chest	1,07,800
½ chest imported into Bombay before June 1882 on payment of duty at Rs. 700 per chest and bought in 1883-84 for home consumption	350
16½ chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 675 per chest	11,137½
1,139 chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 650 per chest	7,40,350
Differential duty at Rs. 50 per chest on the last two items	57,775
Total ...	9,17,412½

Of this sum Rs. 1,54,345-8-6 represent refunds paid and payable in respect of the portions of the above quantities bought by Native Chiefs as detailed in paragraph 46; and of the balance, Rs. 1,48,099-11-3 (*vide* paragraph 47) represent the amount of duty retained on those portions, and Rs. 6,14,967-4-3 (*vide* same paragraph) the full duty on the remainder of the opium bought for local consumption, *viz.* 657 chests, or 89,425 lbs., bought by British farmers on their own account in the market, plus 355½ chests or 48,387 lbs. bought on Government account, less 18,315 lbs. issued to Native States=30,072 lbs., total 119,497 lbs.

Opium duty on actual sales.

52. It has, however, been shown in the table given under paragraph 27 that the quantity of opium actually *sold* in the Bombay Presidency during the year under report amounted to 117,668 lbs., leaving a balance out of the year's purchases for local consumption amounting to 1,829 lbs. (less quantities lost from dryage and wastage) to be utilized during the current year. Loss from dryage and wastage in Government depôts has been separately accounted for in ascertaining the commercial results of Government transactions in opium (*vide* para. 25 above), while licensed retailers themselves bear the losses arising from similar causes on their own stocks and are besides required under the conditions of their licenses to make good the amount of duty payable at the notified rate on the quantities by which their actual sales may fall short of the minima sales which they have guaranteed. The duty on the whole of the unsold balances of the year's purchases thus does not properly speaking form part of the

PROVINCIAL.

Opium duty and License-

revenue of the year under report. Making the necessary deduction on this account, the duty realizations actually belonging to the year 1883-84 amount to Rs. 6,05,149, representing the duty collected on the 117,668 lbs. of opium actually consumed during the year in British districts of the Bombay Presidency. In addition to this amount, the license fees, amounting to Rs. 1,03,673, paid for the privilege of selling opium and chandul, and the sum of Rs. 1,57,485, paid by farmers on account of duty on the quantities by which their actual sales fell short of the minima sales which they guaranteed, must be reckoned as belonging to the year's receipts. The aggregate revenue drawn from these sources in British districts amounted to Rs. 8,66,307 for the year under report, while the sum of Rs. 7,20,337 was realized from the same sources in the previous year. The increase over last year thus amounts to Rs. 1,45,970. The improvement is spread over almost all districts of the Presidency.

Total realizations.

53. The realizations made in each British district during the year under report are compared in the following table with those of the previous year, and with the averages of successive periods of three years ending respectively 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83. The table also shows in the lump for all districts and for the same series of years the profits on the sale of Government opium, the sale-proceeds of confiscations and other items of sundry receipts pertaining to local consumption, as well as the duty at reduced rates derived from the consumption of opium in Native States not entitled to the remission of full opium duty, *i.e.*, the States in Káthiáwár, Cutch, Southern Gujarát, the Konkan, the Deccan and the Southern Marátha Country. Allowance is also made in the figures given in this statement for refunds on account of items other than opium duty. The result for the whole Presidency for the year under report shows an increase of Rs. 1,23,285 in the net revenue realizations under all heads from the local consumption of opium over those of the year 1882-83, of Rs. 2,45,228 over the average realizations during the three years ending 1882-83, of Rs. 5,86,274 over those of the three years ending 1879-80, and of Rs. 7,06,288 over those of the three years ending 1876-77, the year immediately preceding the introduction of the reformed system of excise-opium management :—

Names of Districts.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bombay	13,877	45,505	68,727	72,656	75,842
Ahmedabad	16,903	42,886	1,07,946	1,29,312	1,47,552
Kaira	2,241	18,643	56,789	60,342	76,379
Panch Mahals	14,740	13,405	17,457	19,670	15,634
Broach	3,079	17,949	49,818	55,805	65,684
Surat	5,758	9,094	19,786	21,265	25,429
Thána	5,520	4,826	6,922	8,230	11,025
Khándesh	18,823	19,264	51,903	75,390	96,248
Násik	17,878	17,974	24,313	28,635	33,922
Ahmednagar	10,146	8,828	21,274	37,567	49,388
Poona	22,607	20,630	36,462	53,724	72,546
Sholápur	6,701	6,943	15,867	23,087	33,391
Sátára	6,355	6,898	10,761	11,973	11,941
Belgaum	3,338	3,975	5,160	5,604	6,110
Dhárwár	5,476	3,718	5,554	5,956	6,902
Kaládgi	1,035	886	1,714	2,498	3,175
Kánara	1,033	1,268	1,090	1,095	1,259
Ratnágiri	1,693	1,565	1,655	1,722	1,733
Kolába	1,237	1,643	2,287	2,433	2,766
Karáchi	21,913	21,920	28,434	26,815	38,752
Hyderabad	53,617	49,307	45,332	55,567	60,065
Shikárpur	8,787	11,557	17,739	17,069	26,827
Aden	3,180	3,686	3,780	3,922	3,737
Total British Districts ...	2,45,937	3,32,370	6,00,770	7,20,337	8,66,307

PROVINCIAL.

Total Realizations.

Names of Districts.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Abstract.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opium duty	86,184	1,99,758	4,61,939	5,34,345	6,05,149
License fees	1,45,013	1,28,865	72,986	70,412	1,03,673
Penalty for deficient sales by licensees	.....	134	65,843	1,15,580	1,57,485
Transit opium duty	14,740	3,613	...	...	.....
	2,45,937	3,32,370	6,00,770	7,20,337	8,66,307
Profit on sale of Government opium	.....	...	19,959	21,357	1,195
Contribution for Government establishments	.....	...	...	...	6,600
Fines and confiscations ...	17,015	15,000	12,895	14,488	17,496
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	191	1,204	1,828	2,400	1,356
Total for British Districts ..	2,63,143	3,48,574	6,35,452	7,58,582	8,92,954
Duty at reduced rates on Opium consumed in Native Territory.					
Káthiáwár	54,629	79,710	1,14,873	1,14,660	1,12,079
Cutch	4,800	16,977	29,245	27,067	28,000
Other smaller States	.....	...	5,237	8,037	8,021
Total for Native States ...	59,429	96,687	1,49,355	1,49,764	1,48,100
Grand Total ...	3,22,572	4,45,261	7,84,807	9,08,346	10,41,054
Refunds.					
License fees	193	1,631	181	32	.....
Penalty for deficient sales ...	.....	18	1,029	3,067	11,887
Fines and confiscations ...	106	1,348	290	...	635
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	29	6	3	...	.....
Total Refunds ...	328	3,003	1,503	3,099	12,522
Net Revenue ...	3,22,244	4,42,258	7,83,304	9,05,247	10,28,532

EXPENDITURE.

54. Complete accounts of Imperial and Provincial expenditure relating to the Opium Department are not available in this office, some of the district officers having expressed their inability to furnish the required information owing to the introduction of the system of unclassified accounts, while abkári and opium charges are mixed together in the statements furnished to this office by the Accountant General.

OFFENCES.

Number of cases adjudicated.

55. The subjoined table shows the number of cases under the Opium Act investigated by Magistrates, the number of cases in which convictions were obtained, the number of cases dismissed, and the aggregate quantity of contraband opium seized in each British district and Native State in each of the last two years:—

Districts and Native States.	1882-83.							1883-84.						
	Cases in which convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total Cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband opium seized.	Cases in which convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total Cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband opium seized.
	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.		No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	
British Districts.							Lbs. t.							Lbs. t.
Bombay	10	10	1	1	11	11	10 7	19	20	..	..	19	20	203 27½
Ahmedabad	66	82	11	13	77	95	668 7	59	67	15	20	74	87	269 28¾
Kaira	22	28	1	3	23	31	0 10	60	73	4	8	64	73	89 11¼
Panch Mahals	18	18	4	4	22	22	68 25	27	49	8	9	35	58	251 33½
Broach	2	3	7	10	9	13	11 21	23	23	4	8	27	31	41 5¾
Surat	1	1	..	..	1	1	1 36½	3	3	1	1	4	4	2 25
Thána	1	2	..	..	1	2	0 0½	6	6	1	1	7	7	14 4
Kolába	..	..	2	4	2	4	0 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Khándesh	80	108	24	28	104	136	821 12	105	110	23	37	128	147	205 16½
Násik	1	1	..	..	1	1	1 36½	6	7	..	..	6	7	17 4¾
Ahmednagar	1	1	..	..	1	1	40 35¾	3	4	..	..	3	4	19 13¾
Sholápur	28	33	9	9	37	42	5 6	9	10	1	3	10	13	7 8½
Poona	23	27	1	1	24	28	92 29	12	14	3	5	15	19	47 14¾
Sátára	5	5	..	..	5	5	1 6	7	21	2	6	9	27	0 2¾
Belgaum	3	3	2	2	5	5	2 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Dhárwár	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Kaládgi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Kánara	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Ratnágiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Karáchi	6	6	..	..	6	6	1 1	9	10	..	..	9	10	4 8½
Hyderabad	1	2	1	1	2	3	0 35	4	4	..	..	4	4	4 10
Shikárpur	5	5	..	..	5	5	0 17	4	6	..	1	4	7	2 29¾
Upper Sind Frontier ..	1	1	..	..	1	1	0 11	5	10	..	..	5	10	2 38½
Thar and Párkar ...	12	13	1	2	13	15	24 0	17	20	6	6	23	26	16 34¾
Aden	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Total ..	286	349	64	78	350	427	1,799 35½	378	447	68	107	446	554	1,199 73

OFFENCES.

STATISTICS.

Districts and Native States.	1882-83. Cases in which convictions were obtained. No. of Cases.	1882-83. Cases in which convictions were obtained. No. of Persons.	1882-83. Cases dismissed. No. of Cases.	1882-83. Cases dismissed. No. of Persons.	1882-83. Total Cases brought up. No. of Cases.	1882-83. Total Cases brought up. No. of Persons.	1882-83. Quantity of contraband opium seized.	1883-84. Cases in which convictions were obtained. No. of Cases.	1883-84. Cases in which convictions were obtained. No. of Persons.	1883-84. Cases dismissed. No. of Cases.	1883-84. Cases dismissed. No. of Persons.	1883-84. Total Cases brought up. No. of Cases.	1883-84. Total Cases brought up. No. of Persons.	1883-84. Quantity of contraband opium seized.
Native States.							Lbs. t.							Lbs. t.
Káthiáwár	21	43	2	2	33	45	192 25	55	70	1	16	56	86	240 11½
Cutch	11	18	1	1	12	19	76 27	7	11	..	..	7	11	14 38½
Pálanpur	68	106	5	6	73	112	635 30	57	90	3	13	60	103	414 5½
Mahi Kántha	47	72	3	3	50	75	132 23	60	82	12	21	72	103	216 29½
Rewa Kántha	23	68	13	15	46	83	176 2	35	99	8	8	43	107	785 11½
Sholápur and Southern Maratha Country States	2	4	2	2	4	6	0 2	2	5	1	1	3	6	.. ..
Akalkot	1	1	..	..	1	1	0 0½	7	8	1	1	8	9	4 28½
States under Sátára Agency	1	2	1	1	2	3	1 5	3	3	..	..	3	3	0 27
Total ..	184	314	27	30	221	344	1,214 34	226	368	26	60	252	428	1,676 31½
Grand Total ..	470	663	91	108	571	771	3,014 30	604	815	94	167	698	982	2,866 28½

Remarks on the table.

56. Returns of cases tried in Baroda have not been received. No smuggling cases were reported in any Native States besides those mentioned above. The statement shows that 698 cases were brought before Magistrates in 1883-84 against 571 in 1882-83, and that the number of persons prosecuted was 982 against 771 in the preceeding year. The percentage of convictions on the number of persons prosecuted was 80 and 81 for British Districts for the years 1883-84 and 1882-83 respectively, and 86 and 91 for Native States.

Classification of offences.

57. Statement No. IV. contains a classification of the offences charged, and the nature and amount of punishments awarded, in 1883-84. The following is an abstract of the particulars embodied in that statement, together with corresponding figures for the previous year:—

British Districts.

Nature of Offence.	No. of Cases brought up.	No. of Persons tried.	No. of Persons discharged or acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded. Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fines. Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in default of payment.
1882-83.					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.
Illegal cultivation of poppy	17	17	..	17	..	..	465 0 0	465 0 0	....	..
Illegal manufacture of opium	4	8	5	3	30	..	53 0 0	25 0 0	30 0 0	15
Illegal import of opium..	57	70	4	66	5,004	..	3,876 0 0	525 0 0	3,351 0 0	2,048
,, export of opium..	2	2	..	2	30	..	80 0 0	80 0 0	....	..
,, transport of opium	3	4	..	4	122	..	60 0 0	60 0 0	....	..
Illegal possession of opium	215	270	52	218	8,813	174	10,994 0 0	5,709 0 0	5,285 0 0	5,461
Illegal sale of opium ..	41	45	12	33	465	..	1,651 0 0	1,051 0 0	600 0 0	699
Breach of license conditions	11	11	5	6	..	..	105 0 0	105 0 0	....	..
Total ..	350	427	78	349	14,464	174	17,286 0 0	8,020 0 0	9,266 0 0	8,223
1883-84.										
Illegal cultivation of poppy	12	26	2	24	..	..	234 0 0	224 0 0	10 0 0	30
Illegal manufacture of opium	14	24	6	18	90	..	356 0 0	141 0 0	215 0 0	188
Illegal import of opium..	61	90	9	81	3,968	..	6,031 4 0	1,742 4 6	4,288 15 6	1,764
Do. export of opium..	4	4	..	4	88	..	135 0 0	135 0 0	....	..
Do. transport of opium	6	8	2	6	360	90	350 0 0	500 0 0	350 0 0	210
Do. possession of opium.. ..	295	343	68	275	5,267	428	10,045 0 0	7,567 2 9	2,477 13 3	1,743
Do. sale of opium ..	51	56	19	37	427	30	1,599 0 0	1,514 0 0	85 0 0	67
Breach of license conditions	3	3	1	2	..	..	275 0 0	275 0 0	....	..
Total ..	446	554	107	447	10,200	548	19,525 4 0	12,098 7 3	7,426 12 9	4,002

58. Similar particulars regarding foreign territory are given in Appendix No. V., an abstract of which is subjoined :—

Nature of Offence.	1882-83. No. of Cases brought up.	No. of Persons tried.	No. of Persons discharged or acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded. Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.	1883-84. No. of Cases brought up.	No. of Persons tried.	No. of Persons discharged or acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded. Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.
					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.
Illegal cultivation of poppy ..	2	4	1	3	..	..	30 0 0	8	12	1	11	..	..	67 0 0
Do. manufacture of opium ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	4	4	..	4	..	120	....
Do. import of do. ..	55	101	10	91	3,215	536	3,572 0 0	46	76	8	68	2,532	74	2,138 11 1
Do. export of do. ..	2	8	..	8	306	..	90 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Do. transport of do. ..	5	9	..	9	..	15	317 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Do. possession of do. ..	148	211	18	193	3,926	1,804	14,907 0 0	190	330	49	281	10,134	714	10,512 13 3
Do. sale of do. ..	9	11	1	10	30	30	656 0 0	4	6	2	4	90	..	242 12 6
Total ..	221	344	30	314	7,477	2,385	19,572 0 0	252	428	60	368	12,726	908	12,961 4 4

OPIUM SEIZURES.

59. A number of seizures of opium illicitly imported into this Presidency were made during the year under report on the B. B. & C. I. and the G. I. P. Railways and in Native States and British districts bordering on the frontier. Most of the opium seized on the railways was found on the persons or among the baggage of passengers. The following may be instanced as the most important captures made. Tin cases containing 113½lbs. of opium were found concealed in casks of honey consigned by railway from Rájputána to a merchant of Limbdi in Káthiáwár. In another case a considerable quantity of opium was found concealed in a case of snuff consigned by railway from Ujjain to Poona. In the Panch Maháls 115 lbs. opium were found concealed in a cart loaded with gram, journeying from Ratlám to Dohad. Seizures of 283 lbs. and 199½ lbs. carried in head-loads by gangs of smugglers were made in the Báriya State, and in another case 248½ lbs. were found concealed in a cart loaded with timber from Chhota Udepur. In Pálanpur 123 lbs. and 133½ lbs. carried by men mounted on horses and camels. The servants of the Thákor of Samera in the Mahi Kántha also made two good seizures of opium brought from Meywár by smugglers in head-loads.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
C. B. PRITCHARD,
Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and Abkári.

Statement No. I., showing the Number of Chests for which Passes were granted, the Number of Passes granted, and the Amount of Pass-fee secured at each Opium Agency, during the year 1883-84, compared with the preceding year and with averages for each of the three years ending 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83.

Agencies.	Number of Pass Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass Ports.	Number of Chests	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.
	Average for three years ending 1876-77.				Average for three years ending 1879-80.				Average for three years ending 1882-83.				1882-83.				1883-84.			
			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
Indore	726	19,064	600	1,14,38,400	711	9,526⅔ 4,658⅓	650 700	94,53,625	702	8,630 4,452½	700 650	89,55,475	688	12,686 84	650 700	83,04,700	801	12,825 154	650 700	84,44,050
Ujain	679	14,978⅓	..	89,87,000	640	7,836 3,251⅔	650 700	73,71,667	653	6,748⅓ 3,511⅓	700 650	70,06,200	596	10,377	650	67,45,050	641	9,817½	650	63,81,375
Udepur	511	7,554	..	45,32,400	424	4,520⅓ 2,383⅓	650 700	46,06,550	409	3,329 1,192⅔	700 650	31,05,533	353	3,514	650	22,84,100	111	1,202	650	7,81,300
Chitor	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	458	5,552	650	36,08,800
Ratlám	102	2,237⅔	..	13,42,600	180	1,715⅓ 997⅔	650 700	18,13,333	129	1,301⅓ 397⅓	700 650	11,69,192	97	1,170½	650	7,60,825	131	1,527	650	9,92,550
Dhár	136	2,745⅔	..	16,47,400	23	481⅔ 110⅓	650 700	3,90,317	53	416⅔ 514⅓	700 650	6,25,983	93	1,496	650	9,72,400	91	1,392	650	9,04,800
Jowra	..	..	..	....	55	445 361	650 700	5,41,950	92	741 427⅓	700 650	7,96,467	98	1,236	650	8,03,400	96	1,410	650	9,16,500
Bhopál	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	146	961⅓ 1,035	700 650	13,45,683	237	3,105	650	20,18,250	144	2,298	650	14,93,700
Mándesar	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	125	115 1,564⅓	700 650	10,96,992	337	4,514½	650	29,34,425	358	4,849½	650	31,52,175
	2,154	46,579⅔	600	2,79,47,800	2,033	24,525⅓ 11,765⅔	650 700	2,41,77,442	2,309	35,366	700 650	2,41,01,525	2,499	38,183	..	2,48,23,150	2,831	154 40,873	700 650	2,66,75,250
Ajmere	..	..	..	....	17	145½ 133	725 675	1,95,021	19	311⅔ 120½	725 675	3,07,296	18	361½	675	2,44,012½	11	163½	675	1,10,362½
Ahmedabad	166	2,005	600	12,03,000	127	1,554⅓ 20⅔	650 700	10,24,675	11	248⅓ 293⅓	700 650	3,64,275	18	879½	650	5,71,675	19	945	650	6,14,250
Total	2,320	48,584⅓	600	2,91,50,800	2,177	38,144	650 675 700 725	2,53,97,138	2,339	36,339½	725 700 675 650	2,47,73,096	2,535	84 361½ 38,978½	700 675 650	2,56,38,837½	2,861	154 163½ 41,818	700 675 650	2,73,99,862½

Statement No. II., showing the Number of Chests actually imported under Passes into Bombay, and the Amount of Duty actually realized and finally brought to Account, as compared with the Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and the Duty secured at the Agencies in each of the 10 Revenue Years from 1874-75 to 1883-84.

Years.	Number of Chests actually imported into Bombay in each year.				Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and Duty realized in current year but which were lost on the road.	Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and Duty realized in current year but which did not arrive during the year.	Total number of Chests for which duty was realized and credited in current year. Total of Columns 3, 4, 6 and 7.	Rate of Duty per Chest.	Amount of Duty realized and brought to Account.	Number of Chests for which Passes were granted but Duty not realized and Chests not arrived during the year.	Amount of Duty outstanding on Chests in Column II.	Total Number of Chests for which Passes were granted during current year and the Amount of Duty due thereon.		Remarks.
	Under Passes granted in previous year.		Under Passes granted during current year.	Total Number of Chests imported. Aggregate of Columns 2, 3 and 4.								Chests. Total of Columns 4, 6, 7 and 11.	Duty. Total of Columns 10 and 12, less duty on Chests in Column 3.	
	Duty having been realized and credited in that year.	Duty being realized in current year.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
								Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1874-75 ...	144	1,282	46,085½	47,511½	½	335	47,703	600	2,86,21,800	1,031	6,18,600	47,452	2,84,71,200	
1875-76 ...	335	1,031	40,785	42,151	2	509	42,327	600	2,53,96,200	1,258	7,54,800	42,554	2,55,32,400	
1876-77 ...	509	1,258	55,310½	57,077½	2½	435	57,006	600	3,42,03,600	...	...	55,748	3,34,48,800	
1877-78 ...	435	...	37,104½	37,539½	4½	283	37,200½ 191½	650 675	2,43,09,587½	141	91,650	37,533	2,44,01,237½	
1878-79 ...	283	141	34,503	34,927	...	139	34,575½ 207½	650 675	2,26,14,137½	114	74,100	34,756	2,25,96,587½	
1879-80 ...	139	114	41,977	42,230	...	16	6,462 35,209½ 435½	650 700 725	2,91,62,687½	150	1,05,000	42,143	2,91,93,587½	
1880-81 ...	16	150	38,395½	38,561½	2½	184	38,177 555	700 725	2,71,26,275	55	38,500	38,637	2,70,59,775	
1881-82 ...	184	55	30,844½	31,083½	...	64	1,132½ 29,451 380	650 700 725	2,16,27,325	49	31,850	30,957½	2,16,20,675	
1882-83 ...	64	49	38,715	38,828	½	172	84 361½ 38,491	700 675 650	2,53,21,962½	536½	3,48,725	39,424	2,56,38,837½	
1883-84 ...	172	536½	40,220½	40,929	...	133	154 163½ 40,572½	700 675 650	2,65,90,287½	1,782	11,58,300	42,135½	2,73,99,862½	

Statement No. III., showing the Number of Chests imported into Bombay, the Number of Chests disposed of, the Manner in which they were disposed of, and the Stocks held in Bombay at the end of the Year, for each of the 10 Revenue Years between 1874-75 and 1883-84.

Items.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Remarks.
In stock at the commencement of the year...	1,169½	1,498	1,327	7,233	4,035	3,168	2,051	2,915	1,623	1,695	
Imported during the year	47,511½	42,151	57,077½	37,539½	34,927	42,230	38,561½	31,083½	38,828	40,929	
Total Stock ...	48,681	43,649	58,404½	44,772½	38,962	45,398	40,612½	33,998½	40,451	42,624	
Removed for exportation to China	46,917	42,174	51,005½	40,637	35,281	42,058	36,734	31,133	37,346½	39,763½	
„ England	150	41	71	...	1	5	11	...	...	...	
„ Zanzibar and African coast ...	20½	3	14	4	9	8	18½	17	21	8½	
„ Mauritius do. ...	1	5½	3	1	1½	2	5	1	...	...	
„ Aden do. ...	...	4½	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
„ Cochin, Allepey, Tellichery and Vizagapatam	9	4	6	4	...	30	81½	84½	74½	86½	
Bought by Licensees in British District ...	...	...	...	11	59	81½	336½	460½	638½	657	
Native Chiefs, Cutch	8	...	...	...	64	50	57	73	58	60	
Pálanpur... } Pálanpur Superintendency.	...	...	...	...	12	12	1	...	15	23	
Tharád ... }	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	2			
Váv ... }	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1			
Mánsa, Mahi Kántha Agency ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	8½	3½	
Rewa Kántha States	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	23½	16½	
Cambay	...	...	...	...	...	2	24½	11	20	22	
Jhinjhúváda } Káthiáwár Agency.	..	...	...	...	...	½	1	½	123	172½	
Junágad ... }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29			
Bhávnagar ... }	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	29			
Bought by Government for internal supply.	75	89	68	76	298	501	360½	498	407	355½	
Total removed ...	47,180½	42,321	51,168½	40,735	35,726½	42,755	37,687½	32,348½	38,735½	41,168½	
Wiped off the stock owing to passes not having been utilized within the prescribed period	2½	1	3	2½	67½	592	10	27	20½	3½	
Total chests disposed of ...	47,183	42,322	51,171½	40,737½	35,794	43,347	37,697½	32,375½	38,756	41,172	
Stock at the end of the year ...	1,498	1,327	7,233	4,035	3,168	2,051	2,915	1,623	1,695	1,452	

Statement No. IV., showing the Number and Nature of Prosecutions under the Opium Act, No. I of 1878, instituted in each District of the Bombay Presidency in the Revenue Year 1883-84 with their Result.

Districts.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Number and Amount of Punishment awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owner.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous imprisonment.	Simple imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in default of Payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Bombay	Illegal transport of opium ...	2	2	...	2	...	90	600 0 0	500 0 0	100 0 0	30	165 0 0	165 0 0	...	.....
	Do. possession do. ...	12	12	1	11	...	170	710 0 0	410 0 0	300 0 0	90	35 28 22½	35 28 22½	...	.....
	Do. sale do. ...	5	6	1	5	...	...	470 0 0	410 0 0	60 0 0	37	2 39 90	2 39 90	...	.....
	Total ...	19	20	2	18	...	260	1,780 0 0	1,320 0 0	460 0 0	157	203 27 112½	203 27 112½	...	.....
Ahmedabad ...	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	4	6	1	5	...	...	245 0 0	45 0 0	200 0 0	180	.....	.....	...	.....
	Do. import do. ...	17	23	5	18	60	...	1,475 0 0	525 0 0	950 0 0	561	168 24 45	167 30 45	0 34 0	141 15 5
	Do. export do. ...	2	2	...	2	60	...	100 0 0	100 0 0	.....	...	18 25 90	18 25 90	...	65 3 0
	Do. possession do. ...	36	40	8	32	60	...	1,067 0 0	967 0 0	100 0 0	60	77 25 125	77 12 35	0 13 90	45 14 7
	Do. sale do. ...	15	16	6	10	120	...	461 0 0	461 0 0	.....	...	4 33 45	2 38 45	1 35 0	0 9 2
	Total ...	74	87	20	67	300	...	3,348 0 0	2,098 0 0	1,250 0 0	801	269 28 125	266 26 35	3 2 90	253 10 2
Kaira	Illegal import of opium	10	16	2	14	645	...	500 0 0	500 0 0	.....	...	41 23 126½	41 23 126½	...	1,516 2 8
	Do. possession do. ...	50	52	6	46	1,111	189	1,787 8 0	1,652 8 0	135 0 0	135	47 5 85½	47 5 85½	...	341 5 3
	Do. sale do. ...	4	5	...	5	90	...	200 0 0	200 0 0	.....	...	0 22 14½	0 22 14½	...	0 5 5
	Total ...	64	73	8	65	1,846	109	2,487 8 0	2,352 8 0	135 0 0	135	89 11 45½	89 11 45½	...	1,857 13 4
Panch Mahals ...	Illegal import of opium	9	18	1	17	2,691	...	2,681 0 0	203 0 6	2,477 15 6	883	176 22 135	176 21 45	0 1 90	251 5 3
	Do. export do.	1	1	...	1	...	...	30 0 0	30 0 0	.....	...	0 0 47	.....	0 0 47	.....
	Do. transport do.	2	2	1	1	180	...	100 0 0	.....	100 0 0	120	25 2 90	24 39 135	0 2 135	0 8 0
	Do. possession do.	23	37	7	30	212	...	939 0 0	284 0 0	655 0 0	476	50 7 175	50 7 175	...	.....
	Total ...	35	58	9	49	3,083	...	3,750 0 0	517 0 6	3,232 15 6	1,479	251 33 87	251 28 175	0 4 92	251 13 3
Broach	Illegal possession of opium ...	22	26	7	19	300	15	500 0 0	500 0 0	.....	...	26 28 157½	26 7 45	0 21 112½	2 0 0
	Do. sale do.	4	4	1	3	21	...	80 0 0	80 0 0	.....	...	1 30 135	1 26 45	0 4 90	0 1 6
	Breach of license conditions ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	200 0 0	200 0 0	.....	...	12 25 112½	12 25 112½	...	.....
	Total ...	27	31	8	23	321	15	780 0 0	780 0 0	.....	...	41 5 45	40 19 22½	0 26 22½	2 1 6

Statement No. IV—continued.

Districts.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owner.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in default of payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Surat	Illegal possession of opium ...	2	2	...	2	365	...	75 0 0	75 0 0	.....	...	2 19 90	2 19 90	...	0 4 0
	Do. sale do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	100 0 0	100 0 0	.....	...	0 5 90	0 5 90	...	...
	Breach of license conditions ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	...	...
	Total ...	4	4	1	3	365	...	175 0 0	175 0 0	.....	...	2 25 0	2 25 0	...	0 4 0
Thána	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	25 0 0	25 9 0	.....	...	0 0 45	0 0 45	...	0 10 6
	Do. possession do. ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	400 0 0	400 0 0	.....	...	13 12 135	13 12 135	...	0 4 3
	Do. sale do. ...	4	4	1	3	75	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	...	0 31 13	0 31 13	...	2 8 0
	Total ...	7	7	1	6	75	...	445 0 0	445 0 0	.....	...	14 4 13	14 4 13	...	3 6 9
Khándesh ...	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	4	6	2	4	90	...	21 0 0	6 0 0	15 0 0	8	14 1 40	14 1 40	...	2 5 7
	Do. import do. ...	13	15	1	14	332	...	99 4 0	85 4 0	14 0 0	19	14 33 142	14 33 142	...	22 4 0
	Do. export do. ...	1	1	...	1	28	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	.....	...	0 28 0	0 28 0	...	...
	Do. possession do. ...	102	116	28	88	2,683	104	2,476 8 0	1,620 0 9	856 7 3	571	175 18 140	173 30 11	1 28 129	58 0 6
	Do. sale do. ...	8	9	6	3	91	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	...	0 14 144	0 9 142	0 5 2	1 5 6
	Total ...	128	147	37	110	3,224	104	2,611 12 0	1,726 4 9	885 7 3	598	205 16 106	203 22 155	1 33 131	83 15 7
Násik	Illegal import of opium	1	2	...	2	240	...	80 0 0	80 0 0	.....	...	15 3 0	15 3 0	...	0 2 0
	Do. possession do.	3	3	...	3	...	...	95 0 0	85 0 0	10 0 0	...	1 39 57½	1 39 57½	...	...
	Do. sale do.	2	2	...	2	30	...	15 0 0	15 0 0	.....	...	0 2 90	0 2 90	...	0 1 0
	Total ...	6	7	...	7	270	...	190 0 0	180 0 0	10 0 0	...	17 4 147½	17 4 147½	...	0 3 0
Ahmednagar ...	Illegal import of opium	1	2	...	2	...	...	250 0 0	3 0 0	247 0 0	57	17 17 0	17 17 0	...	3 4 0
	Do. sale do.	2	2	...	2	...	...	115 0 0	115 0 0	.....	...	1 36 45	1 36 45	...	0 4 0
	Total ...	3	4	...	4	...	...	365 0 0	118 0 0	247 0 0	57	19 13 45	19 13 45	...	3 8 0
Sholápur... ...	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	15 0 0	5 0 0	10 0 0	30	.....	.....	...	...
	Do. manufacture of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	15 0 0	15 0 0	.....	...	0 3 45	0 3 45	...	0 15 0
	Do. transport do. ...	1	2	...	2	150	...	150 0 0	.....	150 0 0	60	6 28 90	6 38 90	...	...
	Do. possession do. ...	5	6	1	5	...	...	113 0 0	113 0 0	.....	...	0 6 135	0 6 90	0 0 45	...
	Do. sale do. ...	1	2	2	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 0 2	.....	0 0 2	...
	Total ...	10	13	3	10	150	...	293 0 0	133 0 0	160 0 0	90	7 8 92	7 8 45	0 0 47	0 15 0

Poona ...	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	6	7	1	6	...	...	125 0 0	125 0 0	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....
	Do. import of opium ...	1	3	...	3	...	...	900 0 0	300 0 0	600 0 0	244	38 19 0	38 19 0	...	.....
	Do. possession do. ...	5	6	4	2	...	...	425 0 0	425 0 0	.....	...	7 7 45	7 7 45	...	3 0 0
	Do. sale do. ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	103 0 0	103 0 0	.....	...	0 2 4	0 2 4	...	.....
	Breach of license conditions ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	75 0 0	75 0 0	.....	...	1 26 90	1 26 90	...	.....
	Total ...	15	19	5	14	...	...	1,628 0 0	1,028 0 0	600 0 0	244	47 14 139	47 14 139	...	3 0 0
Sátára ...	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	4	17	1	16	...	...	94 0 0	94 0 0	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....
	Do. manufacture of opium ...	3	8	3	5	...	...	30 0 0	30 0 0	.....	...	0 1 76	0 1 76	...	.....
	Do. sale do. ...	2	2	2	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 1 27	.....	0 1 27	.....
	Total ...	9	27	6	21	...	...	124 0 0	124 0 0	.....	...	0 2 103	0 1 76	0 1 27	.....
Karáchi ...	Illegal import of opium ...	8	9	...	9	...	...	45 0 0	45 0 0	.....	...	0 26 0	0 26 0	...	.....
	Do. possession do.	1	1	...	1	...	...	50 0 0	50 0 0	.....	...	3 22 90	3 22 90	...	.....
	Total ...	9	10	...	10	...	...	95 0 0	95 0 0	.....	...	4 8 90	4 8 90	...	.....
Hyderabad ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	4	4	...	4	...	30	120 0 0	120 0 0	.....	...	4 10 23	4 10 23	...	0 1 5
Shikárpur ...	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	1	2	...	2	...	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	...	.....	.....	...	0 4 0
	Do. import do. ...	1	2	...	2	...	...	1 0 0	1 0 0	.....	...	0 0 97½	0 0 97½	...	.....
	Do. transport do. ...	1	2	1	1	30	...	.....	.....	.....	...	1 23 135	1 23 135	...	17 15 0
	Do. possession do. ...	1	1	...	1	182	...	.....	.....	.....	...	1 5 90	1 5 90	...	36 0 0
	Total ...	4	7	1	6	212	...	21 0 0	21 0 0	.....	...	2 29 142½	2 29 142½	...	54 3 0
Upper Sind Frontier.	Illegal possession of opium ...	4	9	...	9	...	...	720 0 0	519 10 0	200 6 0	130	2 37 96	2 37 96	...	134 15 6
	Do. sale do.	1	1	...	1	...	30	25 0 0	.....	25 0 0	30	0 1 0	0 1 0	...	.....
	Total ...	5	10	...	10	...	30	745 0 0	519 10 0	225 6 0	160	2 38 96	2 38 96	...	134 15 6
Thar and Párkar.	Illegal possession of opium ...	23	26	6	20	354	...	567 0 0	346 0 0	221 0 0	281	16 34 127	16 34 127	...	209 0 5
	ABSTRACT.														
	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	12	26	2	24	...	...	234 0 0	224 0 0	10 0 0	30	.....	.....	...	.....
	Do. manufacture of opium ...	14	24	6	18	90	...	356 0 0	141 0 0	215 0 0	188	14 6 26	14 6 26	...	4 3 1
	Do. import do. ...	61	90	9	81	3,968	...	6,031 4 0	1,742 4 6	4,288 15 6	1,764	473 10 6	472 14 96	0 35 90	1,935 1 4
	Do. export do. ...	4	4	...	4	88	...	135 0 0	135 0 0	.....	...	19 13 137	19 13 90	0 0 47	65 3 0
	Do. transport do. ...	6	8	2	6	360	90	850 0 0	500 0 0	350 0 0	210	198 24 135	198 22 0	0 2 135	18 7 0
	Do. possession do. ...	295	343	68	275	5,267	428	10,045 0 0	7,567 2 9	2,477 13 3	1,743	466 30 154	464 6 137½	2 24 16½	830 12 6
	Do. sale do. ...	51	56	19	37	427	30	1,599 0 0	1,514 0 0	85 0 0	67	13 19 159¼	11 14 38¼	2 5 121	5 2 7
	Breach of license conditions ...	3	3	1	2	...	...	275 0 0	275 0 0	.....	...	14 12 22½	14 12 22½	...	.....
	Total ...	446	554	107	447	10,200	548	19,525 4 0	12,098 7 3	7,426 12 9	4,002	1,199 37 0¾	1,194 9 0¼	5 28 49½	2,858 13 6

C. B. PRITCHARD,

Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and Ábkári.

Statement No. V. showing the Number and Nature of Offences relating to Opium detected and inquired into in each Native State in the Bombay Presidency in the Revenue Year 1883-84, and the Punishments awarded by the Chiefs.

Name of States.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.			Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owner.	Value of other property seized along with Opium.
						Imprisonment.		Fine.				
						Rigorous	Simple.					
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Mds. t. s.	Mds. t. s.	Mds. t. s.	Rs. a. p.
Cutch	Illegal import of opium	4	4	...	4	330	...	28 12 5	14 14 81	14 14 81	.....	22 5 0
	Do. possession of opium	3	7	...	7	...	30	145 1 5	0 24 48¾	0 24 48¾	.....	.....
	Total ...	7	11	...	11	330	30	173 13 10	14 38 139¾	14 38 139¾	.....	22 5 0
Káthiáwár	Illegal import of opium	15	22	...	22	210	...	1,367 14 8	73 29 22½	73 29 22½	.....	.....
	Do. possession of opium	39	60	15	45	335	15	4,386 11 10	159 35 107	159 35 107	.....	1 0 0
	Do. sale of opium	2	4	1	3	60	...	161 12 0	6 26 90	6 26 90	.....	.....
	Total ...	56	86	16	70	605	15	5,916 6 6	240 11 39½	240 11 39½	.....	1 0 0
Pálanpur	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	4	4	...	4	...	120	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 0 9
	Do. import of opium	14	25	7	18	1,015	20	381 0 0	85 11 155	85 11 155	.....	2 0 0
	Do. possession of opium	42	74	6	68	2,011	639	2,268 0 0	328 33 147½	328 33 147½	.....	82 10 6
	Total ...	60	103	13	90	3,026	779	2,649 0 0	414 5 122½	414 5 122½	.....	85 11 3
Mahi Kántha	Illegal import of opium	1	1	...	1	...	...	5 0 0	0 1 135	0 1 135	.....	.....
	Do. possession of opium	70	101	21	80	61	7	2,940 0 0	215 25 55	215 25 55	.....	359 6 10
	Do. sale of opium	1	1	...	1	...	...	81 0 0	1 2 90	1 2 90	.....	25 1 0
	Total ...	72	103	21	82	61	7	3,026 0 0	216 29 100	216 29 100	.....	384 7 10
Rewa Kántha	Illegal import of opium	12	24	1	23	977	54	356 0 0	94 24 22	94 24 22	.....	106 0 9
	Do. possession of opium	31	83	7	76	7,727	23	684 0 0	690 27 19¾	690 27 19¾	.....	1,436 12 6
	Total ...	43	107	8	99	8,704	77	1,040 0 0	785 11 41¾	785 11 41¾	.....	1,542 13 3
Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country States.	Illegal cultivation of poppy	2	5	...	5	...	...	7 0 0	.....	.....	.....	0 2 0
	Do. sale of opium	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total ...	3	6	1	5	...	...	7 0 0	.....	.....	.....	0 2 0

Akalkot	Illegal cultivation of poppy...	4	5	1	4	...	...	10 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Do. possession of opium	4	4	...	4	...	...	64 0 0	4 28 48	4 28 48	.....	.....
	Total ...	8	9	1	8	...	...	74 0 0	4 28 48	4 28 48	.....	.....
Native States under the Sátára Political Agency.	Illegal cultivation of poppy...	2	2	...	2	...	...	50 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Do. possession of opium	1	1	...	1	...	...	25 0 0	0 27 0	0 27 0	.....	.....
	Total ...	3	3	...	3	...	...	75 0 0	0 27 0	0 27 0	.....	.....
	ABSTRACT.											
	Illegal cultivation of poppy...	8	12	1	11	...	...	67 0 0	.....	.....	.....	0 2 0
	Do. manufacture of opium	4	4	...	4	...	120	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 0 9
	Do. import of opium	46	76	8	68	2,532	74	2,138 11 1	268 1 $55\frac{1}{2}$	268 1 $55\frac{1}{2}$	.....	130 5 9
	Do. possession of opium	190	330	49	281	10,134	714	10,512 13 3	1,401 1 66	1,401 1 66	.....	1,879 13 10
	Do. sale of opium	4	6	2	4	60	...	242 12 0	7 29 0	7 29 0	.....	25 1 0
	Total ...	252	428	60	368	12,726	908	12,961 4 4	1,676 31 $121\frac{1}{2}$	1,676 31 $121\frac{1}{2}$	.....	2,036 7 4

C. B. PRITCHARD,
Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and Abkári.

Opium: Report on the Administration of the Opium Department for the year 1883-84.

No. 1394.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 17th February 1885.

Letter from the Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári, No. 9979, dated 28th November 1884—Submitting his report on the administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency for the revenue year 1883-84, ending 31st July 1884.

RESOLUTION.—The quantity of opium in stock and imported under passes into the Presidency and the quantities disposed of in the year under review and the previous year respectively were as follows :—

	In stock at the beginning of the year.	Imported.	Exported to China.	Bought for home consumption.	Otherwise disposed of.	In Stock at the end of the year.
	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.
1882-83	1,623	38,850	37,346½	1,315½	116	1,695
1883-84	1,695	40,976½	39,763½	1,357½	98½	1,452

The quantity shown as otherwise disposed of consists of 8½ chests exported to ports on the African coast and 86½ chests exported to Cochin and Mysore. No opium has been exported from Bombay to any European country since 1880-81.

2. The number of chests (42,135½) weighed and passed at the scales for importation into Bombay in 1883-84 was larger than the number in any of the previous six years except 1879-80. It exceeded the number of those passed in 1882-83 by 2,711½, and the average number of those passed in the five years ending 1881-82 by 5,330. There was an increase in the quantities passed at all the scales except those of Ujain, Ajmere and Bhopál. Only 40,220½ of the chests passed at the scales in the year under review reached Bombay before the close of the year, while 708½ chests which were passed in 1882-83 reached Bombay after the commencement of the year under review. These numbers are exclusive of 47½ chests imported direct by certain Native Chiefs who are by agreement exempted from the payment of pass-fees.

3. There was a considerable improvement in the opium trade with China, on which this branch of the revenue mainly depends. The number of chests (39,763½) exported to that country in the year under review exceeded the number exported in the previous year by 2,417 and the average number exported in the five years ending 1882-83 by 3,253. The course of prices in the year under review both in the Bombay and China markets was the opposite of that in the previous year, the prices at the close of the year being considerably higher than at the beginning. The statement given by Mr. Pritchard however shows the curious result that the average price of the year under review was lower in the Hong Kong than in the Bombay market. From a similar result shown for some months in the previous year His Excellency the Governor in Council was led to infer that the prices shown as prevailing in the Bombay market were those paid for opium purchased for home consumption, but it has been explained that this is not the case. It is no doubt true, as stated by Mr. Pritchard, that the profit of the exporter does not necessarily depend upon the rates reported as current in China at the date of the purchase in Bombay, but there is equal truth in his statement that the fluctuations in the prices ruling in the Bombay market are usually the reflex of the fluctuations in the prices obtaining in the China market, and His Excellency in Council finds it difficult

to believe that with telegraphic communication available merchants purchased opium in Bombay during the year under review at a higher rate on the average than could be obtained for it in Hong Kong.

4. There was no change in the rates of opium duty. The revenue derived from pass-fees on opium exported amounted to Rs. 2,57,30,650 in the year under review as compared with Rs. 2,44,54,200 in the previous year, and the transhipment fees, which constitute the only other item of opium revenue which is credited entirely to the Imperial head except the insignificant one of interest, rose from Rs. 5,189 in 1882-83 to Rs. 16,592 in 1883-84, but for some reason which is not explained Rs. 183 were refunded. The reduction of fee which was described in the report for the former year has thus had a very marked effect. It was further ordered in Government Resolution No. 6718, dated 11th September 1883, that the payment of the fee on opium transhipped at any one of the ports of Bombay, Aden or Karáchi should exempt it from the payment of a similar fee at any of the other ports. The items of revenue credited entirely to the Imperial head thus stood as follows in the year under review and the previous year respectively:—

		1882-83.		1883-84.
Pass-duty	Rs.	2,44,54,200	Rs.	2,57,30,650
Transhipment fees	,,	5,189	,,	16,592
Interest	,,	106	,,	40
Gross Revenue...	Rs.	2,44,59,495	Rs.	2,57,47,282
Deduct— Refunds...	,,	800	,,	183
Net Revenue...	Rs.	2,44,58,695	Rs.	2,57,47,099

5. As shown above, the total quantity of opium purchased for home consumption amounted to 1,357½ chests, of which 355½ chests were bought by Government for issue to retail vendors and Native Chiefs, 657 were imported by licensees without the intervention of Government, and 345 were bought by Native Chiefs for consumption in their territories. The quantity of taxed opium consumed in British districts rose from 106,869 lbs. in 1882-83 to 117,668 lbs. in 1883-84. Belgaum and Kaira are the only districts in the Presidency proper in which there was a decrease, and it was insignificant. The increase in the town of Bombay was very small. Sanction was given in the year under review to the use of the Apollo Bonded Warehouse as a Central Opium Warehouse, from which measure, as explained in Government Resolution No. 1718, dated 26th February 1884, an improvement in the excise revenue is expected, but the adaptation of the building for the purpose was not completed before the close of the year. There was a slight decline in the consumption in Aden, and in the Hyderabad District the quantity of taxed opium consumed fell from 7,100 lbs. in 1882-83 to 6,051 lbs. in 1883-84. The Commissioner attributes the latter decrease partly to high prices charged by licensed vendors, and partly to smuggling. There was also on the whole a considerable increase in the licit consumption of opium in Native States, the largest increase being in Baroda. These results are no doubt mainly due to the increased efficiency of the preventive establishments. It is observed that there was a considerable increase in the number of persons successfully prosecuted both in British districts and in Native States. Mr. Pritchard is however of opinion that much untaxed opium is still consumed in Káthiáwár.

6 Complaints are still made that opium is sold in Baroda territory at lower rates than in adjoining British districts and Native States. It is hoped that the Darbár, whose attention has been repeatedly called to the matter, will without further delay take steps to ensure the terms of the agreement made with it being strictly adhered to. It is satisfactory to find that the area under poppy cultivation was much curtailed in the year under review, but the quantity of opium in stock is still much larger than is necessary to supply the licit demand. In the year under review it amounted to 593,847 lbs. of which 130,060 lbs. were sent to Bombay for export to China, and 60,463 lbs. were issued for retail sales. The revenue derived by the State from the sale of

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opium amounted to Rs. 3,00,000 in the year under review, or nearly five times the amount which was realized before the existing system of State monopoly came into force.

7. The total excise opium revenue amounted to Rs. 10,28,532 in the year under review as compared with Rs. 9,05,247 in the previous year. The duty on opium sold for home consumption rose from Rs. 5,34,345 in 1882-83 to Rs. 6,05,149 in 1883-84, and the amount paid to make up the full duty guaranteed by licensees was Rs. 1,57,485 in the year under review as compared with Rs. 1,15,580 in the previous year, but Rs. 11,887 of the former amount and Rs. 3,067 of the latter were refunded. There was a slight decrease from Rs. 1,49,764 to Rs. 1,48,100 in the reduced duty levied on opium supplied to Native States. The fees for licenses to sell by retail amounted to Rs. 1,03,673 in 1883-84 as contrasted with Rs. 70,412 in 1882-83. The price fixed for the opium issued by Government to retail dealers was little more than sufficient to cover the cost and all charges, the whole profit amounting to Rs. 1,195 only.

8. No information is given regarding the expenditure incurred by the department in the year under review. The Commissioner states that the district officers have expressed their inability to furnish the required information owing to the introduction of the system of unclassified accounts, while the ábkári and opium charges are mixed together in the statements furnished by the Accountant General. Mr. Gay should be requested to state whether he could not arrange to show the expenditure incurred for the protection of the opium revenue separately from that incurred for the protection of the ábkári revenue.

9. The general results are satisfactory, and the continued improvement in the excise opium revenue is in a great measure due to the careful supervision exercised by Mr. Pritchard. The report is, as usual, full and clear, but the error of showing the whole of the excise opium revenue as Provincial Revenue, which was pointed out in Government Resolution No. 1718, dated 26th February 1884, has been repeated. The report, although dated 28th November 1884, was not received by Government until the 20th ultimo.

J. MONTEATH,
Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári,

The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
All Collectors, including the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Sind,
The Accountant General,
The Compiler, General Administration Report for 1884-85,
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
The Political Agent, Káthiáwár,
The Political Agent, Cutch,
The Political Agent, Rewa Kántha,
The Political Agent, Mahi Kántha,
The Political Agent, Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country,
The Political Superintendent, Pálanpur,
The Political Superintendent, Sávantvádi,
The Agent to the Governor General, Baroda,
The Political Department of the Secretariat.

} With copies of the report.

The Government of India,
The Secretary of State for India.

} By letter.